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Date proposed to Be 11/18
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NSC Briefing

CIA

SECRET

Yielding anti-American sentiment among ~~surrounding~~ Cuban is based

in the conviction that the US is providing arms and ammunition to

the government of ~~Cuba~~

I. Probable reasons for kidnappings

Attack of airfield near US base by Lieutenant Colonel Five in reprisal

for ~~attack~~ on

A. Attacks on American-owned properties and threats of retaliation against

B. Communist Popular Socialist party exploiting situation and using

it as argument for return of Guantanamo base to Cuba.

II. Rebels hope to force US recognition of Castro's strength by dramatizing

charges of US aid to Batista, and show latter incapable of controlling situation.

A. Kidnapping apparently well-planned and organized.

III. Cuban army, frustrated by lack of success against Castro control of mountains

and rural areas has made terroristic attacks and probably bombing raids

against civilians.

A. Some indications raids against American property and Cuban civilians

made by army or Senator Rolando Masferrer's private gang posing

as rebels in effort to discredit latter.

IV. Batista appears less receptive than before to suggestions of liberalization

of his regime.

A. Determined to take whatever stringent action necessary to defeat Castro,

though hopes not to disrupt normal life of Cubans, since he is ~~nowhere~~

criticized for inability to maintain order.

1. Claims continued emergency status works no hardships on law-abiding citizens.

B. Probably hopes for US military intervention to strengthen his position and help wipe out Castro once and for all.

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V Eusebio Mujal, powerful labor leader whose support has been important to Batista, told US Ambassador on 18 June that Batista determined to stay in presidency until term ends in February 1958 and nothing can be done to restore political normalcy until Batista out.

VI Intermittent reports of dissatisfaction within Cuban armed forces, including high ranking officers, continue to be received. No connection with Castro, however.